

In response to his recent commendation, Philip's modest reaction was typical. "I do this because I love it, not to win an award," Philip told the Macon Telegraph's Ed Grisamore. "This is really Macon's award."

Mr. Speaker, community leaders like Philip McGoldrick are a real treasure for a city like Macon. Already, Philip is working on ways to help this year's Toys for Tots annual drive bring Santa to every child in Macon, but he hasn't forgotten the critical need to bring Santa to the children left devastated by Hurricane Katrina. I can only wish that other cities each have at least one Philip McGoldrick to lead, organize and motivate civic organizations. Truly, the "gold" in the Philip's surname must reference his heart, for it is made of pure gold.

HONORING THE NORRISTOWN
AREA HIGH SCHOOL HALL OF
CHAMPIONS INDUCTEES

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2005

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five distinguished men and women on the occasion of their induction into the Norristown Area High School Hall of Champions Association.

The Norristown Area High School Hall of Champions Association was established in 1977 to honor and commemorate the athletic accomplishments of distinguished alumni of the Norristown Area High School.

The 2005 Annual Hall of Champions Inductees will be John Sewell III; Willie A. Suber, posthumously; Robert V. Mitchell; Angela Henry Lee; and Melissa Mary Kelly.

John Sewell III, Class of 1954, was a football and track and field standout for three years in high school and won the District One shot put title with a distance of 49 feet, 11¾ inches. Mr. Sewell also played both offensive and defensive line positions in football. During his career, he earned all-star team honorable mention.

Willie A. Suber, Class of 1958, received All-Suburban honors as halfback during the 1957 Eagles football team's undefeated season, which was only the second in school history. Mr. Suber also participated on the track and field team and ran both the 100 and 200 yard dashes. Mr. Suber passed away in 1994.

Robert V. Mitchell, Class of 1961, was well-known in high school as a basketball, baseball, and track star. Mr. Mitchell helped lead the basketball team to the Suburban One title in the 1960-1961 season. Mr. Mitchell also batted .313 for the baseball team which placed second in the league, and he set a school high jump record of 6 feet 4½ inches while helping the track team to the District One title in 1961.

Angela Henry Lee, Class of 1987, was the captain of the indoor track team and co-captain of the 1984 outdoor team. In 1984, she won four medals in the PIAA State title meet in the 400 meter dash, the 100 meter dash, the 4x100 yard relay, and the 4x400 yard relay. Mrs. Lee also won four additional medals in the District One track meet as well as winning three gold medals in the Suburban One championships.

Melissa Mary Kelly, Class of 1998, was an outstanding basketball and softball player. Her athletic accomplishments resulted in her being named to the first team Suburban One League all three years, while also leading the basketball team in scoring and assists. Ms. Kelly also won all-league honors for her athletic talent in softball all three years.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to recognize these remarkable and talented men and women who have all excelled in their respective sports and have made a positive impact on their school and community.

RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL
DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PER-
SECUTED CHURCH

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2005

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church on November 13, 2005, I commend Burke Community Bible Church and Pastor David Doster, New Day Christian Church and Pastor George Logan, and First Hmong Baptist Church and Pastor Nhia Yee Her for gathering in worship and prayer on behalf of Christians around the world who are persecuted for their faith.

Hebrews 13:3 says, "Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body." This day of prayer is an opportunity to live that verse, and to remember that prayer changes things. Today we place a special focus on their situation, and we need to continue to remember and pray for those being persecuted, those involved in the persecution, and those that choose to ignore it.

With over 100,000 United States churches representing nearly every denomination taking part in this day of remembrance and prayer, I urge the country to remember those believers who are suffering because of their faith.

As Christians living in a free nation, we often take our freedoms for granted. Remembering those who can not worship in freedom should cause us to thank God for His blessings to us, and compel us to live out our faith in every single aspect of our lives.

RECOGNIZING JACK C. SMITH ON
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
FOOD CITY

HON. RICK BOUCHER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 10, 2005

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents. On November 17, 2005, Jack Curtis Smith, founder of K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., will mark his 50th year in the grocery business in southwest Virginia, and I would like to take this occasion to recognize his many contributions to my Congressional District. K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc. is an important asset in southwest Virginia, eastern Kentucky, and northeast Tennessee, employing more than 11,000 residents and honoring a strong commitment of service to the region.

Jack C. Smith returned to his hometown of Grundy, Virginia, in 1954 after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and serving in the U.S. Navy for 10 years. While standing in a lengthy line at Grundy's only grocery store, Jack Smith decided that his hometown needed a larger, more convenient supermarket with an emphasis on customer service. Earl Smith, Jack's uncle, Ernest Smith, Jack's cousin, and Curtis Smith, Jack's father, shared the vision that Jack could meet this need. These four local businessmen formed a partnership and began work with the Piggly Wiggly Corporation to construct a new, state-of-the-art grocery store, and on November 17, 1955, Jack Smith and his partners opened the Piggly Wiggly supermarket in the town of Grundy.

After experiencing great success with his Grundy store, Jack Smith acquired grocery stores in eastern Kentucky, southwest Virginia, and east Tennessee from grocery chains such as White Stores, Food City, Winn Dixie, and Piggly Wiggly. Retaining the Food City name, Smith remodeled and modernized the stores, adding features such as wide aisles, larger selection of products and computerized check-out systems, designed to provide the customers greater accessibility to the products and to facilitate an easier shopping experience. Smith soon created K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., as the organization under which his supermarkets would operate. K-VA-T is an acronym for Kentucky, Virginia, and Tennessee, the States in which his grocery stores are located.

The work begun 50 years ago by Jack C. Smith has borne fruit. Today K-VA-T Food Stores, Inc., operates nearly 100 Food City stores. K-VA-T has grown to become the largest employer in the Tri-Cities region of Tennessee and Virginia and the fifth largest employer in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Despite its development as a large retail grocery chain, the headquarters of K-VA-T as well as its distribution facility remain in southwest Virginia near the location of its first supermarket.

Most importantly, K-VA-T has adopted a policy of improving the lives of the residents in the communities it serves. The company is 16 percent employee owned. Jack Smith once stated, "The ultimate objective of K-VA-T Food Stores is to fulfill its ongoing commitment to planned growth. My wish is that the public, our corporate officers, associates and patrons can find their lives enriched because of this company's existence and its efforts. But first, and foremost, let us remember that the friendship of those we serve is the foundation of our progress." For 50 years, Jack Smith has been making investments in the communities his stores serve in cities such as Knoxville, Tennessee, as well as small, rural towns such as Grundy, Virginia.

K-VA-T supports local farmers and produce vendors by selling locally grown produce in its stores. Through the Apples for Students program, K-VA-T has provided over \$9.2 million in computers and computer equipment to over 700 schools. The company regularly participates in local food drives and provides assistance to chapters of the Second Harvest food bank network. Semi-annually, K-VA-T sponsors Food City Family Race Night, which occurs during the week before the NASCAR races the company sponsors. Food City Family Race Night draws over 40,000 race fans,